

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Children are born ready to learn, and the concept of emergent literacy suggests that the development of literacy takes place within the child beginning at birth and emerges over time through the child's interaction with oral and written language; and,

Whereas, Each year one in three children in the U.S. enters kindergarten lacking the basic skills he or she needs to be successful; and,

Whereas, For 13 years, the non-profit organization, Jumpstart for Young Children, has offered a proven solution to this problem by pairing a caring and trained college student with an at-risk preschool child one-on-one for a year to build critical language, literacy, social, and initiative skills; and,

Whereas, This simple, yet powerful model prepares children to learn, encourages families to get involved with their child's learning, and inspires college students to become teachers, child advocates, and leaders in America's education system; and,

Whereas, In 2007 alone, Jumpstart will prepare nearly 12,000 children for kindergarten – making it the largest such organization in America's education system; and,

Whereas, The children's classic, *The Story of Ferdinand*, will serve as the official campaign book, and a custom edition has been created to include proven Jumpstart reading techniques for adults to read with a young child; and,

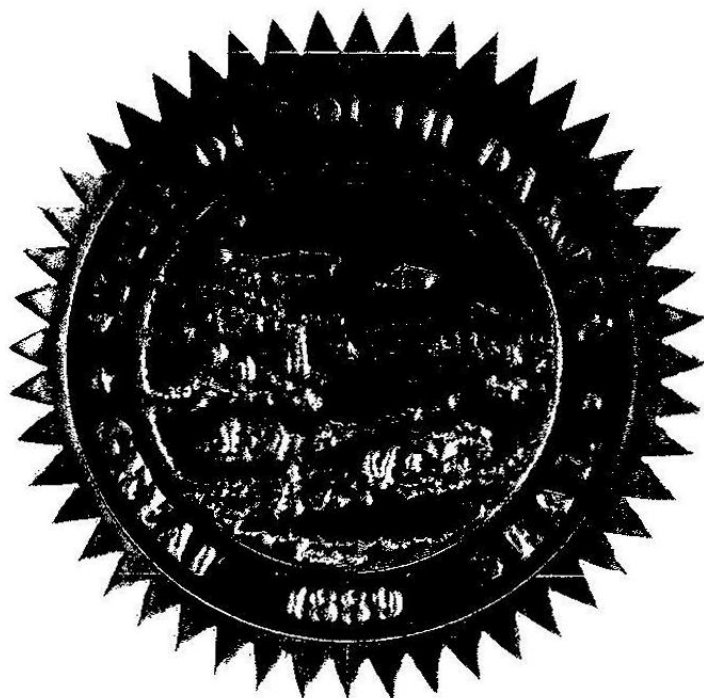
Whereas, Through Jumpstart's Read for the Record campaign, this public/private partnership will help make early education a national priority by building awareness of America's school readiness crisis and by providing tangible, research-based tools and opportunities for participating in a solution to this crisis; and,

Whereas, Schools, libraries, and community organizations across the U.S. will participate in supportive activities:


Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 20, 2007, as

JUMPSTART'S READ FOR THE RECORD DAY


in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.


M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State